U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, DC 20230

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 10:00 A.M. EDT WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2015

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Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products May 2015

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary May steel imports were \$2.7 billion (3.1 million metric tons) compared to the preliminary April totals of \$3.0 billion (3.2 million metric tons).

The May change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected decreases primarily in oil country goods, heavy structural shapes, and line pipe. Increases occurred primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs; galvanized hot dipped sheets; and tin plates. Decreases occurred primarily with South Korea. Increases occurred primarily with Brazil, Italy, and Mexico.

The year to date final statistics through April 2015 showed steel imports of 13.8 million metric tons compared with 12.2 million metric tons through April 2014. The largest commodity increases occurred primarily in line pipe, hot dipped galvanized sheets, and oil country goods. Decreases occurred primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs. The largest country increases occurred primarily with South Korea, Turkey, and Brazil. Decreases occurred primarily with Russia, Mexico, and the United Kingdom.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit our web site at www.census.gov/trade. On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is July 24, 2015.